(c) whether Government have taken any decision in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the delay and by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) The proposal of the Government of Uttar Pradesh for inclusion of (1) Chak, Chik and Hindu Chikwa and (2) Nishad, Machhua, Kewat, Mallah, Bind, Dheewar, Dheemar, Batham, Kashyap, Kahar, Turha, Gond, and Manjhi castes in the list of Scheduled Castes has been referred to the Registrar General of India for their comments. However, no time frame can be assigned in this matter.

Financial assistance to OBCs

1526. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that objective of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation is to provide concessional finance to OBCs for setting up self-employment ventures and starting income generating schemes;

(b) whether it is further a fact that the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) are charging too high rate of interest from OBCs despite their poor financial conditions;

(c) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken to rationalize the rate of interest charged by the SCAs; and

(d) the number of OBCs to whom concenssional finance was provided during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No Sir. SCAs are charging 4% to 6% p.a. from beneficiaries under Term loan and Margin money loan scheme and 4% to 5% p.a. under Micro Finance Scheme.

(d) A Statement is enclosed.

Statement

Financial assistance to OBCs

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of OBC beneficiaries of NBCFDC		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	41917	24065	135
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	241	274	220
4.	A & N Islands	—	—	—
5.	Bihar	180	10	523
6.	Chhattisgarh	203	40	137
7.	Chandigarh	0	25	72
8.	Delhi	200	55	78
9.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—
10.	D & N Haveli	—	—	—
11.	Gujarat	3136	615	880
12.	Goa	72	26	15
13.	Haryana	0	940	769
14.	Himachal Pradesh	176	256	500
15.	J & K	40	30	97
16.	Jharkhand	0	540	0
17.	Karnataka	9276	7757	6528
18.	Kerala	17635	11900	5362
19.	Lakhshadweep	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Madhya Pradesh	993	1292	507
21.	Maharashtra	3088	5570	5941
22.	Manipur	—	—	—
23.	Meghalaya	—	—	—
24.	Mizoram	—	—	—
25.	Nagaland	—	—	—
26.	Orissa	50	105	495
27.	Punjab	196	629	321
28.	Pondicherry	170	173	176
29.	Rajasthan	397	278	792
30.	Sikkim	230	170	300
31.	Tamil Nadu	2146	28717	29799
32.	Tripura	0	0	190
33.	Uttar Pradesh	894	1138	4770
34.	Uttaranchal	0	40	74
35.	West Bengal	2442	1675	2857
	TOTAL:	84682	86320	61538

Disabled population

1527. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to census data released by the Registrar General of India, there are 21.9 million disabled in the country;

(b) if so, whether this is about 2.13 per cent of the total population;

(c) if so, whether the Registrar General of India has given the percentage of each, such as speech, hearing movement impaired and mentally disabled;

(d) if so, whether according to the census the number of people affected is increasing across all age groups; and